

**NH SIX MONTHS AFTER 9/11**

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DURHAM, NH -- Six months following the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks, New Hampshire residents are still concerned about terrorism, still support the U.S. war on terrorism, but have gotten past being concerned about anthrax.

These findings are based on the latest **Granite State Poll**, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. The Granite State Poll is sponsored by the University of New Hampshire. Five hundred forty (540) adults were interviewed between January 25 and February 5, 2002. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/-4.2 percent. (For more detailed results, visit the Survey Center web site at [www.unh.edu/survey-center](http://www.unh.edu/survey-center) and click on Press Releases.)

The attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11 may not have affected people in New Hampshire as directly as citizens of New York and Washington, but the impact of the bombings was certainly felt in the Granite State. Even though six months have past, the fear of a terrorist attack is still strong among residents of New Hampshire. In the most recent Granite State Poll, six percent of New Hampshire residents say they are "very worried" that someone in their family will be a victim of terrorism, 37 percent are "somewhat worried", 37 percent are "not too worried", and 19 percent are "not worried at all". Despite the passage of six months, there has been little change in this indicator. In the October, 2001 Granite State Poll 10 percent said they were "very worried" that someone in their family would be a victim of terrorism, 34 percent were "somewhat worried", 35 percent were "not too worried" and 21 percent were "not worried at all".

New Hampshirans strongly approve of the U.S. response to the attacks on September 11th. In the most recent Granite State Poll, 79 percent of New Hampshire adults say they "strongly approve" of the U.S. military response to the terrorist attacks, 12 percent "approve somewhat", 2 percent are neutral, 4 percent "disapprove somewhat", 4 percent "strongly disapprove" and 1 percent say they don't know. Support for the U.S. war in Afghanistan has actually increased since the October 2001 Granite State Poll when 72 percent said they "strongly approved" of U.S. action, 18 percent "approved somewhat", 2 percent were neutral, 3 percent "disapproved somewhat", and 4 percent "strongly disapproved".

One area where public opinion has changed dramatically is the fear of anthrax attacks through the mail. In October 2001, 17 percent of New Hampshire adults said they worried a "great deal" about anthrax letters, 41 percent said they were "somewhat worried", 27 percent said they worried "not too much" and 15 percent said they worried "not at all". In the most recent Granite State Poll, fear of getting anthrax through the mail has significantly declined such that only 9 percent of New Hampshire adults say they worry a "great deal", 33 percent say they worry "somewhat", 34 percent say they worry "not too much, and 24 percent say they do "not worry at all".

"While it's clear from this survey that New Hampshire citizens are still greatly concerned about the threat of terror, and that a wide majority support the continuing war on terrorism, the anthrax scare is dissipating" said Ted Kirkpatrick, Director of JusticeWorks at UNH. "Many epidemics of this type have a fleeting character. Often they disappear as quickly as they arise."

## **SUB-GROUP ANALYSIS**

There are few differences among New Hampshirans in their fear of a terrorist attack. Fear of having a family member falling victim to terrorism is strongest among people who have recently moved to New Hampshire.

While large majorities of all groups of New Hampshire residents approve of the U.S. war on terrorism, republicans, conservatives, residents of Northern New Hampshire and residents of Hillsborough County are the strongest supporters of U.S. action. Liberals, people with post-graduate educations, and residents of Western New Hampshire are most likely to oppose the U.S. war on terrorism.

Liberals and people under 30 years old are most likely to be worried about getting anthrax through the mail. Men, people with higher levels of income, and people with higher levels of education are least concerned about getting anthrax through the mail.

#### **How Worried Family Will be a Victim of Terrorism**

	<b><u>Oct. 2001</u></b>	<b><u>Feb. 2002</u></b>
Very worried	10%	6%
Somewhat worried	34	37
Not too worried	35	37
Not worried at all	21	19
	(N=521)	(N=550)

#### **Approval of U.S. War on Terrorism**

	<b><u>Oct. 2001</u></b>	<b><u>Feb. 2002</u></b>
Strongly approve	72%	79%
Approve somewhat	18	12
Neutral	2	2
Somewhat disapprove	3	4
Strongly disapprove	4	4
Don't know	0	1
	(N=520)	(N=549)

#### **How Worried About Anthrax in Letters**

	<b><u>Oct. 2001</u></b>	<b><u>Feb. 2002</u></b>
A great deal	17%	9%
Somewhat	41	33
Not too much	27	34
Not at all	15	24
	(N=521)	(N=550)

## **Granite State Poll Methodology**

These findings are based on the most recent Granite State Poll conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center from January 25 to February 5, 2002. A random sample of 555 New Hampshire adults was interviewed by telephone. In 95 of 100 cases, the statewide estimates will be accurate to plus or minus 4.2 percent. Results reported for other subgroups have potential for somewhat larger variation than those for the entire population.

The data have been weighted to adjust for numbers of adults and telephone lines within households, respondent sex, and for region of the state. In addition to potential sampling error, all surveys have other potential sources of non-sampling error including question order effects, question wording effects, and non-response.

Respondents to the Granite State Poll were asked:

- "I'd like to ask you a few questions about the events that occurred on September 11th in New York City and Washington, D.C. How worried are you that you or someone in your family will become a victim of a terrorist attack: very worried ... somewhat worried ... not too worried ... or not worried at all?"
- "Do you approve or disapprove of the current U.S. military action against terrorism?" IF APPROVE: "Would you say you strongly approve or just somewhat?" IF DISAPPROVE: "Would you say you strongly disapprove or just somewhat?"
- "There's been news lately about letters contaminated with the anthrax bacteria being distributed by mail. Is this situation something that worries you a great deal ... somewhat ... not too much or not at all?"

# **Worried Family Will Be Victim of Terrorism**

	<b><u>Very Worried</u></b>	<b><u>Somewhat Worried</u></b>	<b><u>Not Too Worried</u></b>	<b><u>Not At All Worried</u></b>	<b><u>Don't Know</u></b>	<b><u>(N)</u></b>
<b>Statewide, Oct. 2001</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>521</b>
<b>Statewide, Jan. 2002</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>550</b>
Democrat	7	38	37	18	0	214
Independent	14	32	34	19	1	108
Republican	2	38	39	21	0	205
Liberal	11	33	37	20	0	106
Moderate	5	37	43	15	1	252
Conservative	2	42	30	26	0	143
2 Years or less in NH	18	44	19	17	2	36
3 to 5 years	6	27	44	23	0	36
6 to 10 years	5	37	50	8	0	48
11 to 20 years	5	37	33	24	0	130
More than 20 years	5	38	39	19	0	294
18 to 29	8	40	35	16	0	91
30 to 39	5	34	44	17	0	106
40 to 49	2	34	45	18	0	124
50 to 59	5	38	32	25	1	105
60 to 69	15	35	30	19	1	53
70 and over	4	48	26	21	1	57
Male	4	31	38	25	1	266
Female	8	43	36	13	0	285
High school or less	10	37	30	23	1	171
Some college	9	38	33	20	0	123
College graduate	4	37	45	14	0	172
Post-graduate	1	37	40	21	1	84
Less than \$30K	14	34	29	21	1	75
\$30K to \$60K	5	36	38	20	0	173
\$60K to \$75K	6	25	41	27	1	56
\$75K to \$100K	0	40	50	10	0	67
More than \$100K	2	44	35	18	0	61
Married	6	38	36	19	0	360
Divorced/separated	7	39	37	17	1	88
Never married	6	34	40	20	0	96
Protestant	6	37	36	21	0	210
Catholic	6	46	35	13	1	190
Other	7	26	43	23	0	135
Northern NH	8	39	33	20	0	78
Western NH	3	35	32	30	0	59
Central/Lakes	5	41	33	22	0	72
Hillsborough County	7	38	40	15	0	177
Seacoast	5	35	40	19	1	165

# **Approve of US War on Terrorism**

	<b><u>Strongly Approve</u></b>	<b><u>Approve Somewhat</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>Somewhat Disapprove</u></b>	<b><u>Strongly Disapprove</u></b>	<b><u>Don't Know</u></b>	<b><u>(N)</u></b>
<b>Statewide, Oct. 2001</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>520</b>
<b>Statewide, Jan. 2002</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>549</b>
Democrat	66	16	2	7	7	1	214
Independent	85	11	0	2	2	0	106
Republican	90	6	2	1	1	1	205
Liberal	60	18	2	9	10	0	106
Moderate	82	9	2	3	3	1	252
Conservative	89	10	0	0	0	0	143
2 Years or less in NH	70	19	0	7	4	0	36
3 to 5 years	82	0	0	3	14	1	36
6 to 10 years	73	15	3	0	10	0	48
11 to 20 years	80	13	3	2	2	1	130
More than 20 years	80	11	1	4	2	1	292
18 to 29	76	9	5	3	5	2	91
30 to 39	82	12	0	1	3	1	106
40 to 49	78	16	1	3	2	0	123
50 to 59	75	13	2	7	4	0	105
60 to 69	77	10	0	6	6	1	53
70 and over	85	7	1	3	3	1	57
Male	82	8	2	3	4	1	266
Female	75	15	1	4	4	1	283
High school or less	79	12	3	3	1	2	169
Some college	88	8	0	1	2	1	123
College graduate	84	9	1	2	4	0	172
Post-graduate	55	23	2	11	10	0	84
Less than \$30K	69	11	4	5	9	1	74
\$30K to \$60K	83	11	0	1	5	0	173
\$60K to \$75K	74	17	0	7	2	0	56
\$75K to \$100K	85	11	0	3	2	0	67
More than \$100K	86	10	0	2	2	0	61
Married	82	11	0	4	2	0	360
Divorced/separated	73	15	4	1	3	4	88
Never married	70	11	3	5	9	2	95
Protestant	80	12	0	6	2	0	210
Catholic	83	10	1	1	2	2	190
Other	70	12	4	4	9	1	133
Northern NH	87	7	1	2	2	1	78
Western NH	51	20	7	10	10	2	58
Central/Lakes	68	18	0	4	7	3	71
Hillsborough County	88	7	1	3	2	0	177
Seacoast	79	12	2	3	3	1	165

# Worry About Anthrax Letters

	<u>Great Deal</u>	<u>Somewhat</u>	<u>Not Too Much</u>	<u>Not At All</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>	<u>(N)</u>
<b>Statewide, Oct. 2001</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>521</b>
<b>Statewide, Jan. 2002</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>550</b>
Democrat	13	32	36	19	0	214
Independent	7	31	34	27	1	108
Republican	6	34	33	27	0	205
Liberal	15	36	25	24	0	106
Moderate	7	31	40	22	0	252
Conservative	7	32	34	27	1	143
2 Years or less in NH	13	35	34	18	0	36
3 to 5 years	7	28	33	33	0	36
6 to 10 years	11	35	36	18	0	48
11 to 20 years	7	40	25	28	0	130
More than 20 years	9	29	38	23	0	294
18 to 29	12	41	25	21	0	91
30 to 39	10	30	37	22	0	106
40 to 49	2	34	42	23	0	124
50 to 59	7	27	38	28	0	105
60 to 69	12	32	27	27	2	53
70 and over	17	30	27	26	0	57
Male	10	25	33	33	0	266
Female	8	40	36	16	0	285
High school or less	12	31	32	25	1	171
Some college	11	41	27	20	0	123
College graduate	7	33	36	25	0	172
Post-graduate	4	24	47	25	0	84
Less than \$30K	12	36	33	17	2	75
\$30K to \$60K	11	33	27	28	0	173
\$60K to \$75K	4	29	44	22	0	56
\$75K to \$100K	5	40	44	11	0	67
More than \$100K	9	17	42	32	0	61
Married	9	33	35	23	0	360
Divorced/separated	7	35	34	24	0	88
Never married	10	29	34	27	0	96
Protestant	7	34	34	24	1	210
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Northern NH	8	37	36	19	0	78
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Central/Lakes	5	33	33	29	0	72
Hillsborough County	12	32	36	19	1	177
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